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COMING.

BY REV. A. J. LOCKHART.

"Tis coming! Yes, 'tis coming!" — *Gerald Massey.*
"Blazon'd on heaven's immortal noon
The Cross leads generations on." — *Shelley.*

Lo! from his eastern height sublime
I hear the herald's joyous warning;
Day's glory deepens far upclimb
The sun's triumphant steeds of light
Chase the retreating hosts of night;
The valleys sing, the hills rejoice,
And sounds aloft one cheering voice,
"Tis coming! Yes, 'tis coming!"

"Tis coming! Yes, our night of tears
Shall fade before Immanuel's glory,
Which now to gild our earth appears,
Foretold in ancient song and story;
Foretold in that seraphic strain,
With notes which hant our world again,
Though heard but once, and silent long,
From waiting lips a triumph song
Shall surely soon be coming.

Brows bowed so long lift up to light,
Not moist with unrequited labor,
And hands are clasped — the dark and
white —
The bondman is the friend and neighbor;
And his own brother hath forborne
To make his brother's manhood mourn,
For traveling through the shadowy years
The Just, the Merciful, appears.

Behold! the Lord is coming!
'Tis coming up the steep of time —
The Light that shall illumine the nations!
From height to height, to virtue's prime,
The Cross leads on the generations;
Till, far as solar beams are spread,
The heavenly healing shall be shed,
Till at His feet the world shall fall,
And conquering Christ be in all
Amid the ages coming!

'Tis coming up the steep of time!
And now the signal note is flying
From land to land, from clime to clime,
Mighty, unaltered, undying!
Redeeming Truth's immortal light,
Faith's triumph, Love's superior might,
The strength of thoughts and deeds sublime,
Are coming up the steep of time!
They're coming! Yes, they're coming!

THE NEARING CENTENNIAL.
The New England Conference Plan.
BY WILLIAM F. WARREN.

II.
Before adjourning, the recent New England Conference passed the following vote, to wit: "That the committee on the Centennial be continued another year with power to make such modifications in the plan they have submitted as the recommendations of the approaching General Conference, or other circumstances, may suggest as desirable."

Pursuant to this action, the committee met a few days ago to confer together as to the necessity or expediency of modifying the annual Conference plan.

After a general statement of the action of the General Conference by the chairman, the seven resolutions were taken up in order and considered in the light of the recommendations and requirements from Philadelphia.

As these resolutions cannot be here reproduced, the reader is advised to open his copy of the Conference Minutes at page 45, and read each in its proper order.

Resolutions first, second, and third, pledging the church in all our charges to a religious commemoration, to a connectional thank-offering, with the cause of education as its chief object of benevolence, stand not only unchanged, but as adopted and made obligatory upon the whole church.

The only change which the General Conference in adopting them as its own suggested, was a wise recommendation, that wherever it may be deemed expedient, centennial meetings for the presentation of the claims of our educational institutions be held earlier than the commemorative meetings in Christmas week.

Resolution fourth, relating to a uniform printed subscription paper, was adopted in like manner by the General Conference. Here, however, one important modification is found necessary. Our New England Conference subscription paper contemplated placing before the people at the time of asking the thank-offering all the regular and authorized benevolences of the church in addition to the

special educational interests approved by the Conference. The General Conference, on the contrary, while recommending gifts to all these various causes, wisely says: "Inasmuch, however, as all these benevolences have opportunity to bring their appeals before the churches every year, while our schools and colleges have not the like opportunity once in a generation, it is only proper that the claims of our educational institutions should have the first place in all distinctively centennial meetings, and that centennial gifts for the ordinary and regular benevolences of the church should be solicited only in the progress of the year the ordinary annual appeal for each is made."

This is very important action, and it should be carefully noted by every pastor, since it makes every regular benevolent collection of the whole year a part of the Centennial Thank-offering. As stated in the former article, any and all excess in each of these collections over the corresponding collection last year is credited to the Centennial Thank-offering.

Resolution fifth, relating to the centennial celebration of "Children's Day," was adopted without change by the General Conference. Reports thus far received as to the results of this part of the celebration are full of encouragement.

Resolution sixth, relating to a proposal to report along with the centennial gifts the names of all members and donors in the different charges throughout the Conference and throughout the church, failed to reach the General Conference in due form, the committee of the Historical Society sending forward no memorial on the subject.

Resolution seventh, at least "for substance of doctrine," reappears in the concluding paragraph of the General Conference report, so that all that is therein proposed has fullest ecclesiastical sanction, and we hope, be widely carried out.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the action of the General Conference necessitates only the slightest changes in the original annual Conference plan. A sub-committee has been appointed to revise the proposed form of subscription and report to a later meeting of the committee. Another sub-committee, of which Dr. Dorchester is chairman, is considering the question of the expediency or inexpediency of holding in the autumn one or more general centennial conventions, to awaken public interest and prepare for a more effective celebration in December. Both committees will be thankful for helpful hints and suggestions.

The General Conference Plan was ordered to be printed by the Tract Society for gratuitous circulation, and will soon be ready. The foregoing report of its agreements and differences with the Conference plan is presented at the request of the committee on the Centennial.

ACCESSORIES OF THE SERMON.
BY PROF. L. T. TOWNSEND.
[Continued.]

In those days when the Church of Scotland was in its most prosperous condition, when every house was a place of song, not more than thirty tunes were in general use. "I do not hesitate to give it as my opinion," said the late Dr. Lowell Mason, "that there are but very few tunes simple enough for common worship."

This certainly is a wise hint from a wise source.

It has, perhaps, occurred to every reader that the bulk of our hymns and tunes serves no other purpose than simply to increase the size of the books in use.

A distinguished preacher has made the following admirable plea for old and simple melodies: —

"It is no wonder that singing has died out from the congregation when a choir is put up to recite words that nobody can understand, to music that nobody knows, and the people are left to listen to newly-converted opera airs, which were brought over by a fresh troupe of foreign singers! And those sweet melodies which stilled propriety has long ago driven from the church, but which have gone forth among the people, and rung out gloriously in camp-meeting, shaking the forest leaves with the ascending shouts of a mighty people, or which, more gently, have filled rural school-houses, and humble lecture-rooms, and village churches, not yet

corrupted by the false pretences of 'classic' music — those melodies that no one can hear with his ear and not feel his heart beating within his bosom all the faster for the sound, are becoming the ridicule and contempt of men who think that God must be praised to the sound of Meyerbeer or Rossini, and not to the sweet and humble melodies of our own land."

Let, therefore, this rule be adopted, that there shall be in every public service several hymns and tunes which are among the most familiar.

As to the selection of hymns for a given public service, much might be said, but we confine attention to a few points only. And first, it will be found an advantage if the preacher will become familiar with the hymn-book in use. Appropriate hymns will then readily suggest themselves, and much trouble and time may thus be saved. Next, he should reduce his list of available hymns by rejecting those which are especially defective in religious sentiment, those which are too didactic, and those which are unpoetical in imagery and diction.

This law of selection equally applies to certain stanzas of a given hymn.

Again, as with tunes so with hymns, the old and familiar are, as a rule, the best, and other things equal, should be selected. Hymns of this class are from the nature of the case most frequently upon the lips of the common people. They have been the most carefully preserved by the church because they are richest in religious expression and suggestiveness, and will always, therefore, be welcome. They have, too, a wealth of associations, often touching and helpful; they have been heard in childhood from the dear but dead lips of a father or a mother.

Hence it follows that in selecting hymns for a given sermon, the preacher must take time and exercise care. If the selection for a given sermon is left to accident, or until Sunday morning, the unity and effectiveness of the service may be greatly marred. And if an irreligious chorister, who is intent upon displaying himself and his choir, and who is destitute of interest in the sermon or in the salvation of the people, is allowed to select the closing hymn, he may dissipate all the religious emotions awakened by the sermon.

The following minor hints are worthy of attention: The first hymn should be long meter and devotional; it will be all the better if it can also prepare the mind for the subject of the sermon. The second hymn should be in harmony with the sermon and prophetic of it. And the last hymn should follow up the impression left upon the mind at the conclusion of the sermon. Indeed, it may be justifiable in some cases, if it can be done without damaging the unity of the discourse, to give such a turn to the conclusion as will neatly and impressively introduce the concluding hymn.

The preacher should also be careful to avoid unfitness in the selection. We may illustrate. At a wedding lately the choir sang, "Come, ye disconsolate." The officiating clergyman, feeling awkward about it, attempted to mend matters by giving out a hymn, but unluckily struck into the one beginning, "Mistaken souls, that dream of bliss." In one of Chicago's suburbs at a recent Sunday-school meeting, a long-winded clergyman consumed too much of the time with a wordy address. When he sat down the leader of the meeting unwittingly announced the hymn beginning, "Hallelujah! 'tis done!"

In the long run the preacher will save time and perhaps annoyance if he will note upon his sermon the first line of a few hymns adapted to that sermon. By consulting the index of the first lines of any collection, he can thus, when on exchange, easily find hymns which are the most appropriate.

A few suggestions as to the announcement of hymns will close this article. It is unnecessary to announce the meter unless the leader is in doubt and needs that information. The preacher should also bear in mind in his announcement that a verse is a single line of poetry, and that a stanza is a grouping of two or more lines.

Again, unless special distinctness is sought, the ordinal rather than cardinal numbers should be used.

Thus, eighty-eighth rather than eighty-eight is the better announcement.

There is a class of remarks sometimes indulged in by the preacher which is a decided impropriety. This is an example: In reading a hymn to be sung one Sunday afternoon a New York minister recently said, "You may omit the fourth verse; I don't believe it's true." Such remarks are entirely destitute both of wit and of all sense of propriety.

It is likewise unnecessary to employ a lengthy introduction. "Let us all unite in the praise and worship of the great God" by singing the thirteen hundredth hymn of our new Hymnal collection," would better be announced by sing, with the open hymn-book in hand, and pausing for a moment that the people may also take their hymn-books, then slowly saying: "Hymn thirteen hundredth," followed by a pause long enough for the people to find the hymn. The first pause with hymn-book in hand is equivalent to saying, "Let us sing," etc.; the second pause gives time both to find the hymn and for the vocal organs of the preacher to adjust themselves to the sentiment of the hymn. That is, hymn announcement is in style didactic; hymn reading is rarely didactic, but generally devotional, emotional and poetic. Without the pause after the announcement, the vocal organs will refuse to readjust themselves, and the didactic style will be continued and will greatly interfere with the proper rendering of the majority of our hymns.

HOURS WITH ASBURY.

BY MARK TRAFFONT.

SECOND PAPER.

When these two young men, in 1771, stood up in the Conference in response to the question, "Who will go to America?" what may we imagine to have been their conceptions of this far-off, shadowy land? Geographical knowledge was not then the exact science of to-day. We know all about this mundane home of ours; every room in the old house, all the furnishings, and the surroundings are as familiar as the homestead of our childhood. The distance to be traveled, the comforts or discomforts, the time of transit, and day of arrival, are all known to a dead certainty, barring unforeseen accidents.

Our missionaries going out in this day are making no sacrifice of home comforts, or society relations, or sufficient financial support, which are not made by every itinerant minister in the land. The sea voyage is a recreation and a sanitary measure, in magnificent steamships, and railroads, and comfortable palanquins, with more luxurious living than they ever found at home. Arriving at their destination, their warm-hearted co-laborers receive them with a joyful welcome, and there is a home prepared for them the like of which very few of us poor wretches ever enjoyed. Then they are within an hour of home, as the tamed lightning waits to bear the message of love and the hail of "all well."

But go back a hundred years. The new world was but just coming into view, as a morning star rises slowly above the eastern horizon. Only one hundred and fifty years since the little company stepped upon the ice-covered rock of Plymouth, and a large portion of that time had been spent in a struggle for life with the savage possessors of the soil. A thin population spread along the sea-board from Maine to Georgia, extending back from the sea a distance of from one to three hundred miles — unsubdued, uncultivated, unknown, teeming with wild beasts and untamed savages. The few sheep were unfurled as yet, and the societies inchoate and widely scattered over a territory of which an Englishman, brought up on that little spot of land in the ocean, could have no just conception. True, Mr. Wesley and brother Charles had been over here, and found it a grand country to go from, and I can fancy I see a grim smile flit across that venerable face as these young men rise before him, as if saying to himself, "You will be older when you come back."

Then there was that great and terrible ocean with its storms, and calms, and ceaseless throbings, to be crossed,

not as now in less than a week, but with a great wrestling with storm and billow for from three to four months, in an old square-bowed tub, ill-shaped, and worse furnished.

"How shall we get there?" would be the first question raised, for, strangely enough, neither Mr. Wesley nor the Conference thought of making the slightest provision for the necessary outfit of these young men, but seemed to rest upon this logical conclusion: "You are willing to go; if God wants you there, He will bring you through." Our modern missionaries take no thought of means. They are provided with a generous outfit, passage, and state-rooms elegantly furnished, filled with the perfume of fresh flowers, and a quarterly draft forwarded to cover an abundant salary. Here, on the last of August, 1771, Francis Asbury comes again to Bristol to embark for America, "with not one penny in my pocket!" Great God! If I, this writer, have ever murmured in my itinerant life, when for weeks without a dollar in my pocket, forgive the ingratitude! His cabin was filled with the perfume of bilgewater, and his friends, who had put £10 into his hands, "had forgotten the bedding, so I had two blankets for mine; I found it hard to lodge on little more than boards." But there was no complaint; "the Lord will provide for those who trust in Him."

Now is a good opportunity, in the intervals of horrible sea-sicknesses, which clear one's stomach of "that perilo's stuff" which brings on the blues, to sit down to a little self-communion; so Francis calls Asbury the missionary before him, and proceeds in this formal manner to examine him: —

"Where are you going, Mr. Asbury?"
"To the new world."
"What do you go to gain honor?"
"No, if I know my own heart."
"Perhaps to get money?"
"No, I am going to live to God, and to bring others to do so."
"There has been in America a work of God, first among the Friends, but it declined, so among the Presbyterians, but there it declined. The people God owns in England are the Methodists. The doctrines they preach, and the discipline they enforce, are, I believe, the purest of any people now in the world. If God does not acknowledge me in America, I will soon return to England."

"Well and truly spoken, young man; go below and turn in."

From the 2d of September to the 27th of October the old ship labored on through the turbulent waters, "turning up and down," as our fresh-water sailor calls it, "in a manner very painful to one not accustomed to sailing." On the second Sabbath from port, he preached to the ship's company, and says, "the sailors behaved with decency." He spends his time in reading a choice selection of books — "The Appeals," "De Renty's Life," "Norris' Works," "Edwards on the Work of God in New England," "Pilgrim's Progress," the Bible, and "Mr. Wesley's Sermons" — with "retirement and prayer."

He preaches each Sabbath, but to his disappointment no revival appears; "they are insensible creatures." October 13, "very windy, but I set my back against the mizen-mast and preached freely on, 'Now, then, we are ambassadors for Christ.' No visible fruit."

These extracts from his log show that the preachers of those times were accustomed to look for immediate results. We wonder if modern preachers when getting a chance to hold forth the Word on a trip to or from Europe, look for "visible fruits!"

But the time passes; it is now in the last week in October, and our Bishop in *futurus esse* writes in his journal: "Many have been my trials in the course of this voyage from the want of a proper bed and proper provisions, and surrounded by men and women ignorant of God and very wicked. But if I cannot bear this, what have I learnt?"

But all things end, and so this bedless voyage, and on the 27th of October the weary pilgrims landed in Philadelphia, and a Mr. Francis Harris took them to his house, and in the evening to a large church, where Mr. Pilmore preached a sermon to a good-sized congregation.

One thing strikes us as singular in this account of his voyage, and that is that his traveling companion, Mr. Wright, is but once referred to, and then only thus, on the first Sabbath out: "Bro. W. preached a sermon on deck, and all the crew gave attention." Was there alienation or jealousy between them? Was Bro. W. obstinate? Once, soon after, Asbury speaks of Bro. W. as having gone somewhere "at his own discretion." There was certainly at that time too much self-seeking, a strong desire cherished by the preachers to remain in the cities, while Asbury was desirous of having them "circulate," as he expresses himself. He had not left home and kindred and come to this new world to sit down in a city charge, while all around were multitudes of suffering souls, unvisited and untaught. No indeed, he must "circulate," and so far as he had power or influence, others should do the same. He was requested by his seniors to visit New York. There he finds Boardman, unwell but still able to preach, and so, "Why both remain in York?" "I have not got the thing which I seek — a circulation of the preachers to avoid partiality and popularity. I expect trouble is at hand; this I expected when I left England." "My brethren seem unwilling to leave the cities; I think I shall show them the way." And so out he goes to West Chester with two of the brethren, and securing the Court House, commenced that wonderful career of itinerant labors, which closed only with his life.

AGRA.

BY BISHOP H. S. FOSTER.

At the end of three days, with a mingled feeling of weariness and sadness, we turn our faces from Delhi to Agra. The fascination of the tomb is upon us, and we would linger longer, but the attraction of the Taj, the eighth and greatest wonder of the ages, draws us, and we hasten on our journey. Who at a distance ever thinks of Agra except as the setting of Taj Mahal? The jewel, alone, whose sparkle dims all other lustres, is associated with the name of the city of which it is, in fact, but one of many charms. Agra without the Taj has enough to make it a fair competitor with any city on the globe; with the Taj it has no rival. During our stay in Delhi we had a whole day's torment of rain, the first we had seen in nearly three months of our India life. It was much needed in a land where famine follows close upon the heels of unseasonable weather, and famine in India means the starvation of millions — a not infrequent occurrence. The tempered air and moistened earth made our ride all the more pleasant, so if we were losers in one respect we were gainers in another. We have no work in Delhi, and did not have time to visit the missions of other bodies here. The field is considered a hard one, but the Baptists and church missions are represented as enjoying some prosperity.

Mr. Smith, of the Baptist mission, has been long here, and has acquired commanding influence, which has been used for the public welfare in other ways besides the simple work of a missionary; but I had no means of learning how much evangelizing force and appliance centre in this important city.

The prevalence of the Mohammedan element, both here and at Agra, is noticeable. They everywhere are a more robust stock. The religion of the false prophet makes a fierce and fanatical cast of character, while that of the Hindoo tends to gentleness, passivity, and submission. The Hindoo is religious. The Mussulman is a zealot — cruel, unrelenting, unreasoning. In all India there have been few converts from the Moslem ranks. The ancient glory of the proud Mogul Empire sends down a spirit of domination, which makes submission now after hundreds of years still difficult. Were it in their power, the descendants of Tamerlane and Baber would make a speedy end of all the Christian agency in the land, and the crescent would wave alone over the great peninsula. The remorseless despotism that built the ancient tombs of Delhi and reared these walled cities, would come again, and the millions would grind out their miserable lives, or be massacred as of old for the gratification of their bloody tyrants. The sword would exterminate Hindoo, Parsee and Christian alike, or subject them to a slavery worse than death.

We had arranged to spend the Sabbath at Agra, and visit our little church in that famous city. When we arrived Saturday morning, we were met by our young Bro. Curtis and Dr. Valentine, superintendent of the Mission Medical Institute — an institution for the training of medical missionaries, natives and others. The good Scotchman had invited us to be his guests, and right royally did he entertain us. The institute largely owes its existence and growth to his vigorous personal efforts. He is

an educated, scholarly gentleman as well as an earnest Christian and able preacher. The institute is connected with the Medical College of the city, all its pupils having all the advantages of the college gratis, the Doctor superintending their studies and missionary training and their domestic habits. The property consists of an ample building in which he resides, barracks for the students, and a large and beautiful compound located on the edge of the military lines and near the college. There are several students in a good state of progress, and standing well in their classes. Of the value of such a training establishment there is but one opinion possible. The plan is yet in its beginnings, and there are arrangements already in operation for its expansion and enlarged efficiency.

Having no church building yet of our own, and our Baptist friends having a large and prosperous church, it was determined that we should preach in their house, Dr. Reid taking one hour, and the other being assigned to me. We had a delightful, and, I trust, useful Sabbath among the Christians of all names who merged their meetings into one — of course, as always, the Establishment excepted. We have a large and centrally-located lot, and several thousand rupees toward a building, and during the year a commodious edifice will be built. This is in South India Conference, and of course, has no missionary fund to fall back on. The work at present is English, but there is earnest hope that it will soon include a department of native effort. As yet but little has been done in that direction, and, as everywhere in India, that is the great want. The native city is one of the most important and best-ordered cities of India, having a population of 160,000 souls. It is unusually well built, and has clean, paved streets. The people are above the average in appearance, and their business places are larger and better than common; but in saying this we must remember with what the comparison is made, as set forth in former letters.

Agra is not so large as Delhi, and has not the accumulation of ruins of former cities to give it interest, but in some respects it is by far the most interesting city in India. In neither Delhi nor Agra are cautious of army quarters equal to some cities already described, but after saying that, we must add that in both these cities they are vast, and, as everywhere else in the British Empire, a credit to the great power which they represent. The city is situated on the west bank of the Jumna, and as we stood on the parapets of the fort, and on the upper terrace of the tomb of Akbar, at Sikandra six miles away, we agreed that our eyes had never gazed upon a more lovely and perfect landscape of orchards and gardens. It looked an earthly paradise. Speaking of Akbar's tomb, let us begin with it. It is located at Sikandra, six miles from the Agra fort. The distance is all lined with decaying memorials of a time when, perhaps in all the world, there was not a more royal drive. The glory has long ago departed, and only ruins and squalor remain. The tomb of this noble of the Mogul monarchs is alone kept up in somewhat of its ancient splendor. It is a vast and noble mausoleum, but not equal to Humayan's already described, in architectural effect; but it is only inferior. The great arched gateway of cathedral proportions and resembling a mosque, is one of the finest in India, and, to my eye, eclipses the mausoleum itself. Near by, in a garden where was the tomb of one of Akbar's wives, said, but perhaps without sufficient grounds, to have been a Christian woman — probably the daughter of a Hindoo rajah — is now a Christian orphanage, under the care of the London Missionary Society. It is, and has been for years, an institution in which native orphans are cared for, and besides getting a Christian education, are trained in useful arts. Here is one of the best printing and book-making establishments in interior India, wholly under the management of the beneficiaries. Here I saw one of the wild boys, taken when a child from the woods, and when found, was running on all fours, and barking and snuffing like a wolf. For a long time he would feed only on raw meat. He is an idiot, and though mingling with the other boys for years, he cannot speak an intelligible word. He is treated kindly, and seems to share in the pleasure of the plays of his companions, and they, I was assured, treat him with sympathy and tenderness. The apartments where these poor creatures are lodged would seem inadequate to an American, but they are better than the average.

The fort is so nearly the same in dimensions, material and general construction, that I will not tire the reader with a description. In some respects it is superior. The Delhi gate is even more imposing than the Lahore gate at Delhi. The royal buildings within are larger, but have nothing equal to the Diwan-i-Khas, and baths of the Delhi palace. At least, so it impressed me; but between the splendors it is difficult to choose. Ferguson gives the preference to Agra. The Shish Mahal of Agra, or "Palace of Glass," which is an oriental bath decorated with thousands of small mirrors wrought into most curious frescoes, is greatly ad-

(Continued on page 8.)

BE SURE TO PLEASE!
TWO HEARTS AS ONE

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(Continued from page 1.)

and is really wonderful. Our traveled countryman, Bayard Taylor, places the Moti Masjid, or "Pearl Mosque," far ahead of its rival of Delhi. He says: "This is the Moti Masjid, or Pearl Mosque, as it is justly called. It is, in truth, the pearl of all mosques of small dimensions, but absolutely perfect in style and proportions. It is lifted on a lofty sandstone platform, and from without nothing can be seen but its three domes of white marble and gilded spires. In all distant views of the fort these domes are seen like silvery bubbles which have rested a moment on its walls, and which the next breeze will sweep away. Ascending a lofty flight of steps, a heavy door was opened for me, and I stood in the courtyard of the mosque on the eastern side, and the pure blue of the sky overhead. The three domes crown a corridor open towards the court, and divided into three aisles by a triple row of the most exquisitely proportioned Saracenic arches. The Moti Masjid can be compared to no other edifice that I have ever seen. To my eyes it is absolutely perfect. While its architecture is the purest Saracenic, which some suppose cannot exist without ornament, it has the severe simplicity of Doric art. It has, in fact, nothing which can be styled ornament. It is a sanctuary so pure and stainless, revealing so exalted a spirit of worship, that I felt humbled as a Christian to think that our noble religion has never inspired its architects to surpass this temple to God and Mohammed."

This eloquent tribute of the great traveler and art critic does not impress me as extravagant. The mosque occupies a length of one hundred and forty-two feet by a depth of fifty-six feet; the court in front, which is a part of the structure, being one hundred feet, making the entire depth one hundred and fifty-six feet. It stands on the very crown of the fortified plateau, and rises far above the parapets so as to be a conspicuous object from a distance. The view from the balconies of the palace on the river side of the fort is exceedingly fine. On the right a mile away rises the Taj Mahal; on the left on the opposite side of the river is seen the dome of the tomb of Itmad-ud-Daulah, which is a gem of great beauty, whose history is like a romance. It was built before the Taj itself, and in its way excites almost as much admiration. It is the resting place of the dust of a Persian adventurer, whose daughter, Nur Jahan, became the queen of Jahangir, and whose granddaughter was Mumtaz Mahal, the wife of Shah Jehan, whose mausoleum is the Taj. Nur Jahan built the tomb to her father. Beautiful enough to make the fortune of any city of any age, we can no more mention it, as we turn to examine the more distinguished shrine of the illustrious granddaughter, known better as Urjumat Banu Begum. It is doubtful if any structure built by man has received such admiration as the Taj Mahal of Agra, or has been the subject of so many vain attempts at description. The tomb is the tribute of affection by her husband, whose devotion was as beautiful as the marble edifice which perpetuates it. She bore him seven children, and died in becoming mother of the eighth, in 1629, at Burhanpur, whither she had accompanied her husband against Kahn Jehan Lodi. Her body was carried back to Agra and laid in a spot in the royal garden, still pointed out close by the mosque, until the incomparable mausoleum was prepared for her reception. It was twenty years in building, and was completed in 1648. It is supposed to have been devised by an Italian artist, Geronimo Veronesi. The white marble which forms the substance of the building was doubtless brought from Makrana near Jaipur, and the red sandstone from Futehpur-Sikri; the jewels are partly Indian, partly Persian, and partly from the trans-Himalayan regions. The tomb of Humayan, built nearly a hundred years before, furnished, if not the model, the hint of its general outline. The account of the cost derived from native sources of the period of its erection, shows that not less than 18,400,000 lakhs of rupees were expended in money—a sum equaling 1,800,000 pounds sterling—besides the forced labor of 20,000 workmen for nearly twenty years, which, reckoned at the least wages, would carry the total cost to not less than \$100,000,000.

The Week.

DAILY RECORD OF LEADING EVENTS.

Tuesday, July 9.

Final adjournment yesterday of the forty-eighth Congress. Stringent measures adopted by the Boston board of health to render the city clean in every respect. Prevalence of an epidemic of measles in New York city, east side, 126 deaths occurring therefrom last week. Assembling and organization of the Democratic national convention at Chicago. Countermand of the order to withdraw the troops from Tonquin.

Congress.—The Senate yesterday finally passed its amendment to the naval appropriation bill, and after a vote of thanks to the presiding officer, adjourned until the first Monday in December next. The House transacted no business of importance, adjourning finally at 3 o'clock.

Wednesday, July 9.

Laying of the corner-stone of the new Hebrew Temple, Adah Israel, this city. Formal protest by the Cherokee Indians against the enforcement of a law enacted by the last Congress giving the right of way through their domain in the Indian Territory, and other privileges, to a railroad corporation. The American Institute of Instruction is now in session at Cottage City, Martha's Vineyard. Evacuation of Dongola by the troops and population.

Thursday, July 10.

Continuation of the shutting down of mills at Fall River, Mass. Alumni day yesterday at Bowdoin College; historical address by Rev. E. E. Hale. War between France and China believed to be inevitable. Increasing alarm in France at the spreading of the cholera, especially in Marseilles, 15,000 people having already died from that city.

Friday, July 11.

Death, at New Orleans, of Paul Morphy, the famous chess player. The estate of the late Rev. Henry Morgan appraised at \$48,468. Morgan Chapel was valued at \$26,500.

The operations of France against China to be limited to naval movements through the summer. Confirmation of the fall of Berber. Twenty-six deaths from cholera in Marseilles yesterday.

Saturday, July 12.

Gov. Grover Cleveland of New York nominated for the Presidency by the Democratic national convention, and Hon. Thomas A. Hendricks of Indiana nominated as candidate for Vice-President.

Death of Karl Richard Lepsius, the famous German Egyptologist, aged 84 years. Decided improvement in the health of James Russell Lowell, the American minister to England.

The cholera spreading in France. In Marseilles 74 deaths are reported within twenty-four hours, and 13 deaths in Toulon.

Sunday, July 14.

A furniture factory at Williamsburg, N. Y., struck by lightning and burned, the property loss aggregating \$300,000.

Burning of a tenement house in New York city. Shocking scenes witnessed as the inmates leaped from the windows.

Total wreck of the "State of Maine," of the International line, from Boston to St. John, N. B., by striking on a reef at the extreme end of Point Lepreau. All the passengers, three hundred in number, were saved.

Seventeen deaths from cholera occurred at Marseilles and 36 at Toulon during the last twenty-four hours.

Osman Digma, the Egyptian rebel, reported to have seized Assis, a port on the Red Sea.

Occurrence of a \$200,000 fire at West Winchester, Ontario.

Death of Right Rev. William Jacobson, D. D., Bishop of Chester, Eng.

Release of Enos, the defaulting ex-president of the Second New York National Bank, the Canadian court having refused to surrender him to the United States authorities.

(Continued from page 5.)

New London.—Here Rev. S. O. Benton and his people are enjoying peace and prosperity. The church regains very much that this is Bro. Benton's last year.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Gleanings.—We send congratulations to the other corner of the State, to Rev. Fred C. Pillsbury and wife. The deed was done June 24, in Detroit, Mich. May blessings many and great rest like's father!

At Eppling Rev. Fred E. White received a "pounding" on the evening of July 4 (it being his birthday). A goodly number assembled at the parsonage to perform the pleasing task, and the number of pounds exceeded the number of his years. At a "rose and strawberry festival" recently given by the "Willing Helpers" for the benefit of their church building enterprise, the many friends of Bro. White presented him with a beautiful oil painting. His labors with this people are earnest and untiring, and he certainly deserves the appreciation that he receives.

CORRECTION.—In the Minutes of East Maine Conference, L. L. Hanson is made secretary of Conference Board of Church Extension. It should have been S. L. Hanson.

B. C. WENTWORTH, for Com.

Doer.—Sunday, July 6, was a day of great interest in our church. It was our "jubilee," to celebrate the payment of our debt. The church was beautifully decorated, and the house was filled with a very happy audience. The singing, under the direction of our veteran leader, J. B. Pinkham, esq., was by a chorus of thirty voices and the children of the Sunday-school. The report of the trustees was presented by the chairman, Hon. E. V. Brewster, giving a clear account of the expenditures in the construction, and the subsequent financial operations of the board, the indebtedness, and the successful raising of the fund to pay the same. Rev. James Ashton, a venerable local elder, who has been for half a century a pillar in the church, gave a sketch of the past as compared with the present, entitled, "Then and Now—1834-1884." Rev. James Thurston gave a brief sketch of "our pastors" from the pioneer, John Lord, in 1817, to Jesse M. Durrell, our present minister—"last, but not least."

Bro. Durrell gave some well-chosen words of congratulation on the consummation of our debt-paying effort. Remarks were also made by Harrison Hayley, esq., treasurer of the trustees, recognizing the efficient aid which had been afforded by the women of our church and congregation. They have raised and paid over \$3,000 toward the construction and furnishing of the church, and have pledged \$1,000 in addition toward the debt.

The "jubilee offerings" were then collected, and a large sum was paid in the evening was devoted to a concert by the Sunday-school, aided by a chorus choir. This was somewhat a substitute for the annual Children's Day, which, in consequence of our debt-paying engagements, we were obliged to defer. The amounts paid in on the subscriptions were unexpectedly large. Our trustees have already paid nearly \$10,000 of our debt, and the balance is coming in very promptly. It is thought that the entire amount is substantially secured, and in due time our enormous debt of over \$14,000 will be a thing of the past.

NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE STATISTICS.

A careful comparison of the Minutes with the Discipline shows that everything required has been printed, and only duplicates have been omitted. Is there any "violation of the Discipline" in such an abridgment? If suggesting such a condensation to the publishing committee in 1881 constitutes responsibility, I plead guilty.

S. E. QUMBY, Sec.

RHODE ISLAND.

At a meeting of the officers and managers of the Home Missionary Society of the N. E. Southern Conference held in the Mathewson St. Church, July 1, it was voted to ask the churches to raise \$3,000 this year for the pressing needs of the Conference. This society is growing in favor as the good results of its operations become more apparent. A committee consisting of the presiding elders and two pastors on each district was appointed to enlist the attention of the churches and secure at least the above sum. The members of the committee are D. A. Jordan and G. A. Morse for New Bedford district, S. O. Benton and J. C. Gowan for Norwich district, and C. L. Goodell and E. D. Hall for Providence district. These are live men, and will be heard from.

Sunday, July 6, was a day of great joy with Asbury Church, Providence. In the prayer-meeting at 9.30 A. M., one rose for prayer. In the afternoon six were received on probation, eleven were baptized, and fifty-seven were received into full membership from probation, and six by letter. These probationers were converted while Mrs. Van Cott held revival services in this church last winter. She had great success there in winning sinners to Christ. The converts were of all ages, from children up to grandparents. Several more are to be received next month. The church was crowded during the day and evening, and shouts of joy indicated the spirit of holy triumph which filled the hearts of God's people. Rev. W. J. Smith, the pastor, ignoring all merely sensational efforts, is steadily increasing in influence by his faithful pastoral visitations, his clear presentation of saving truth, and his uniformly kind and Christian spirit.

One person was baptized in the Methodist church, Phoenix, and four received into full membership, Sunday, July 6. This is another church which was greatly benefited by the labors of evangelists. S. A. Burns, two years ago, and Mrs. E. J. Smith, of Providence, one year since, were very successful in winning, and the pastor then with the church, Rev. W. J. Smith, in caring for souls, until he left, when Rev. A. Canoll took up the good work and is gathering the harvest.

The East Greenwich Academy has ceased to be a Conference seminary, the property having passed into the hands of a corporation of stockholders, assuming all its liabilities with the intention of carrying on the school as it has been in the past, only aiming at greater efficiency and success if possible. As in the past, it will be a Christian, but not sectarian, school. It is expected that the Conference will not be less interested in its success, although greatly relieved financially by this change. The officers of the new corporation are: President, Smith S. Talcott, Vernon, Ct.; vice-president, Rev. H. D. Robinson, New London, Ct.; secretary, Rev. H. W. Conant, Providence, R. I.; treasurer, F. A. Stone, Providence, R. I. There are twenty-five directors arranged in five classes. Bishop Mallaleu leads the list. An executive committee of nine are especially entrusted with the oversight of the school. These are: S. S. Talcott, J. D. Flint, Roberts S. Reed, Charles W. Anthony, Daniel H. Greene, M. D., Parson M. Stone, Enos Lapham, Rev. H. W. Conant and O. H. Fernald. Rev. O. H. Fernald was unanimously elected principal for five years, beginning July 1, 1884. Rev. F. D. Blakeslee, the retiring principal, has had charge of the school ten years, during which time it has steadily improved, having a larger attendance last year than in any year of its previous history.

Rev. E. D. Hall, of Bristol, has gone with his family to spend several weeks at Cottage City.

Bishop Mallaleu received a most enthusiastic reception in Providence, Wednesday evening, July 9. Between two and three hundred Methodists were present, mostly citizens of Providence. Mr. Walter H. Barney, chairman of the committee of arrangements, had charge of the services. The banquet, which was most tempting in variety and quality, was finished about 9 o'clock, when the post-prandial exercises began. The Trinity male chorus, under their leader, Rev. J. Benson Hamilton, furnished excellent music during the evening. Mr. Philip B. Stiner, a member of Asbury Church, Providence, was the first speaker. He was "glad to greet Bishop Mallaleu as a New England man—a man from the section which had sent out sons and daughters all over the world where their influence is mightily felt."

Rev. C. L. Goodell, pastor of the mother of the Providence Methodist Episcopal Church, and on his fifth year as pastor in the city, made a capital speech. Rev. J. A. L. Rich, of Attleboro, welcomed the Bishop in behalf of the clergy in the vicinity of Providence. Bishop Mallaleu, being introduced, was greeted with prolonged applause. He made a characteristic speech flowing with humor, good sense and salvation. Mrs. Martin, president of the W. C. T. U., was called upon by the president to speak for the sisters. Holding in her hands a basket of beautiful cut flowers, and facing the Bishop, she charged him to remember all she said and tell it to his wife, for whom the flowers were intended. She spoke of the disabilities under which women did their work in the church, but was still thankful that they could make toast and tea for bishops, who, after all, were men; and it was an honor to bathe a bishop's head! She was hopeful for

woman's future, and believed a "better time" was coming for her. No speech made during the evening caused a greater sensation than this. The basket of flowers was presented to Bishop Mallaleu to be taken to his wife. Rev. J. W. Hamilton, of People's Church, Boston, who accompanied the Bishop, made a speech which elicited hearty applause. An hour or two were spent in social converse, and many present were introduced to the Bishop. This was one of the most enjoyable occasions in the history of Providence Methodism.

The Providence Methodist Churches will hold a memorial service for Bishop Simpson, Sunday evening, July 27, in the Chestnut Street Church. Bishop Mallaleu is expected to make the address.

VERMONT METHODIST SEMINARY.

REPORT OF EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

A full committee, several of whom have taken high rank as teachers in various departments, undertook the work to which they were assigned, carefully and thoroughly examining the work done in our Seminary. The committee were present at every public examination, and obtaining the papers for most of the written examinations, gave to each careful attention. We cannot report the work of each class, and, as a whole, the work done was so excellent, that were one teacher commended, all, or nearly all, must in justice receive like commendation. There are teachers in this institution whose superiors it would be difficult to find in any institution of similar grade in the land.

In music the school off its most decided advantages. Within the past two years, eight new pianos have been added in this department. One of these is a Chickering upright, one a Knabe grand. Two organs have also been added—one pedal with seventeen stops and two banks of keys. In September they expected a pipe organ from Hutchins, Plaised & Co., built for this institution, with twenty-one registers; net price, \$2,550. The teachers for the coming year are: Prof. Hadley, a pupil of Eugene Thayer, of N. E. Conservatory, already too well-known to need further words of praise, and Mrs. Nellie L. C. Osgood, his assistant and equal, and also a graduate of the Conservatory. Their success has been so great as to produce a call for seventy lessons per week, with over one hundred and twenty-five sections per day in constant practice. The coming year, Prof. Dickinson, a graduate of the Conservatory, and a special pupil of Carl Zerrahn, of whom he took lessons in the conducting of choruses, will conduct the class in vocal music, giving special attention to voice culture. Prof. Dickinson's special teacher in the Conservatory was a man who himself had studied in Europe and was thus able to give his pupils broader culture than ordinarily received. It is planned to arrange for a regular course of study in this department, from which, as in other departments, pupils may graduate. It is claimed, and perhaps justly, that with these arrangements complete, better musical advantages cannot be obtained this side Boston.

The department of art showed decided indications that a true artist had the work in charge. Not only were there pupils of ability, but that ability had been applied and directed by a peculiar tact in instruction. In the arrangement of the studio and of the rostrum, were seen evidences of artistic influence. It is a fact that Miss Harrison has made drawing and painting from nature a special study, and is eminently well fitted for instruction in that department. Pupils who have studied with her one term, choosing subjects from flower-bed and hillside, have evidenced this higher skill of the teacher, and are worthy of commendation.

We are convinced, moreover, that this school is doing grand work in the culture of the heart as well as the head. The students show that full, rounded Christian characters are here being developed. The atmosphere of the Christian home, which pervades the school, cannot be too highly commended. Over fifty conversions have occurred in the past two years. For fifty years this Seminary has been giving to the world the fruits of its work.

This work of sending forth men and women great and good to elevate and Christianize the world, perhaps is unparalleled by any similar institution in the land. With all the advantages accruing to our Seminary from the past, with the splendid equipment of the present, strengthened by a right royal alumni and a host of friends, her prospect looks even "better further on."

Our Seminary deserves and expects the hearty support and fullest patronage of every Methodist in Vermont.

G. F. ARMS, Sec. of Com.

earnestness. His faith is equal to great results even in the summer-time. And lo! God has already honored it signally, and will continue to do so more and more.

R. H. H.

PAINE is continually adding New Styles to his immense stock of fine furniture. Dining Room Tables and Chairs, New Styles in Chamber and Parlor Suites have just been added, also a number of New Styles in Book Cases are now being finished. Everything made and finished by him is warranted to be as represented and to give perfect satisfaction or money returned. One entrance is on Canal Street, No. 48, opposite Maine Depot.

In another column will be found the announcement of the Bryant & Stratton Commercial School, Boston, which is at once the oldest, largest and most successful of its kind. Its peculiar points of excellence are admirably set forth in the advertisement and need not be repeated here; suffice it to say that the principal, Mr. H. E. Hibbard, has been eminently successful in graduating well equipped, self-reliant pupils, who are acceptably filling positions of trust, to which he has introduced them, in all our large cities.

Persons who get poisoned with ivy, will find Paine's Central Salt Eucalypti an excellent remedy. 25 cents. Druggists sell it. Manufactured by J. P. Pike & Co., Chelsea, Mass.

The Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, under the able management of President C. H. Payne, has taken a front rank among our Western Colleges. The system of education has proved a pronounced success, giving the young ladies at their lovely home at Monnet Hall the advantage of mixed classes with the privacy of the family circle. The University in all its departments has never been as fully conducted. The graduating class of 1884 numbered sixty, and the enrollment in all departments of the institution for the year was 701; representing 81 counties of Ohio, and 25 States and foreign countries.

ACCEPTABLE GIFTS.—The donors of church bells evidently comprehend the proverb that "give is better than receive," for they appear to be very numerous. Yesterday a fine presentation bell of one-ton weight was sent from the Clinton H. Meadley foundry to the Presbyterian church, Valatie, and one of similar weight is now being placed in Grace Episcopal church, Lexington, Va., which is memorial of the distinguished general, Robert E. Lee. Last week a bell of over two tons' weight was sent in the tower of the Second Presbyterian church, Chicago, as a memorial of George Armore, formerly one of the most substantial and well-known citizens in the Northwest. A gentleman in New York city has just donated a bell to call to worship the miners of a village in New Mexico and one to the church in Shanghai, China, which is memorial of the distinguished general, Robert E. Lee. Last week a bell of over two tons' weight was sent in the tower of the Second Presbyterian church, Chicago, as a memorial of George Armore, formerly one of the most substantial and well-known citizens in the Northwest. A gentleman in New York city has just donated a bell to call to worship the miners of a village in New Mexico and one to the church in Shanghai, China, which is memorial of the distinguished general, Robert E. Lee. Last week a bell of over two tons' weight was sent in the tower of the Second Presbyterian church, Chicago, as a memorial of George Armore, formerly one of the most substantial and well-known citizens in the Northwest. A gentleman in New York city has just donated a bell to call to worship the miners of a village in New Mexico and one to the church in Shanghai, China, which is memorial of the distinguished general, Robert E. Lee.

—Troy Daily Times.

Church Register.

HERALD CALENDAR.

New England Assembly at Lakeview, Framingham.	July 16-25
Camp-meeting, at Silver Lake, Yarmouth.	July 21-26
Yarmouth Camp-meeting begins July 30, and closes Aug. 12. July 20 to Aug. 2, Rev. S. O. Benton, and Excursion.	Aug. 4 to 12, Evangelical Union.
Dorchester, Mass. Camp-meeting.	July 29-Aug. 6
Plattsburgh, N. Y. Camp-meeting.	Aug. 11-18
South Framingham Camp-meeting.	Aug. 11-18
Temperance Camp-meeting of N. H., at Wrentham.	Aug. 12-15
Central Services at Martha's Vineyard, Mass.	Aug. 15-21
Hamilton Camp-meeting.	Aug. 15-21
North Castle Camp-meeting commences.	Aug. 15-21
Ware Camp-meeting.	Aug. 18-23
Clarendon Junction Union Camp-meeting.	Aug. 18-23
Rockland Dis. Camp-meeting, at Noble, Me.	Aug. 18-23
Camp-meeting, at Martha's Vineyard, Northampton Camp-meeting.	Aug. 18-23
Old Orchard Beach (National), Newmarket, Me. Temperance Camp-meeting.	Aug. 18-23
Camp-meeting at Western Grove, Northport (per vote of Association), begins Richard, Me. Camp-meeting.	Aug. 25-30
Sterling Junction Camp-meeting.	Aug. 25-30
Holding Camp-meeting, at East Eppling, N. H.	Aug. 25-30
East Machias Camp-meeting commences.	Sept. 1
Livermore Camp-meeting.	Sept. 1
North Anson Camp-meeting.	Sept. 1
Groveton Camp-meeting.	Sept. 1-13

MEETINGS AT MARTHA'S GROVE, FRYEBURG, ME.

Chautauque Assembly.	July 22-Aug. 2
Temperance Convention.	Aug. 4-6
Portland District Camp-meeting.	Aug. 11-16

POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.

Rev. W. Butler's address, for the present, will be at 31 Clinton Avenue, Cottage City, Martha's Vineyard, Mass.

North Boston District Apportionments.

Ward.	Freeholders.	Freeholders' Aids.	Freeholders' Aids.	Freeholders' Aids.	Freeholders' Aids.
1884.	1884.	1884.	1884.	1884.	1884.
Boston:					
Monument.	\$54	\$25	\$60	\$20	\$15
Trinity.	12	30	12	20	25
Ashburham.	40	80	20	5	6
Abbot.	40	80	20	5	6
Ayer.	12	2	5	15	2
Hart.	32	15	20	10	4
Berlin.	12	2	4	10	2
CAMBRIDGE:					
Cottage.	32	12	20	60	4
Harvard.	12	25	125	40	25
North Avenue.	21	8	12	50	2
Trinity.	60	20	60	100	15
Clinton.	60	12	30	80	10
East Eppling.	12	30	16	4	6
Templeton.	22	6	12	20	2
Fitchburg.	72	18	50	150	20
Gardner.	48	12	40	60	10
Granville.	28	8	12	25	4
Habitation.	22	8	12	20	2
Hudson.	52	18	40	80	10
Leominster.	40	12	30	70	12
Lewiston.	24	6	12	30	3
Lowell.	80	20	50	200	10
Central Ch.	10	25	80	20	15
Highlands.	10	25	80	20	15
A. Paul.	104	30	90	275	18
Worthen St.	104	30	90	275	18
Marlboro.	40	12	25	60	10
Maynard.	20	5	10	25	2
Oakdale.	16	30	10	60	10
Phillips.	32	15	20	120	6
Princeton.	16	6	8	75	2
Rockton.	32	8	20	45	4
ROXBURY:					
Broadway.	26	6	10	35	4
Flint St.	48	12	30	60	14
Union St.	72	20	70	150	16
Waltham.	80	25	80	250	10
South Roxbury.	12	3	4	10	1
Sudbury.	12	3	4	10	1
Townsend.	32	10	16	40	3
Watkins.	60	25	80	250	10
Watertown.	46	16	30	80	4
West Chatham.	16	4	6	30	2
Medford.	20	6	12	25	2
Weston.	44	10	20	75	4
Winchester.	32	12	25	75	6
Woburn.	32	15	20	120	6
West Fitchburg.	18	10	8	40	2

Per Committee of the District Stewards.

June 30, 1884.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

LYNN DISTRICT.—SECOND QUARTER. JULY.

Parker St. Lawrence.

26, 27, a. m.; 28, 29, p. m.; 30, 31, p. m.; 1, 2, p. m.; 3, 4, p. m.; 5, 6, p. m.; 7, 8, p. m.; 9, 10, p. m.; 11, 12, p. m.; 13, 14, p. m.; 15, 16, p. m.; 17, 18, p. m.; 19, 20, p. m.; 21, 22, p. m.; 23, 24, p. m.; 25, 26, p. m.; 27, 28, p. m.; 29, 30, p. m.; 31, 1, p. m.; 2, 3, p. m.; 4, 5, p. m.; 6, 7, p. m.; 8, 9, p. m.; 10, 11, p. m.; 12, 13, p. m.; 14, 15, p. m.; 16, 17, p. m.; 1